

Various Sites  
EPA Region 1

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EPA Region 1 has conducted enforcement work on several asbestos disposal sites. Currently, work on 11 sites has been completed; 4 additional sites are scheduled for spring; and work on 3 sites is being done by private parties. Region 1 has approached all of these sites as immediate removal actions under 40 CFR 300.65.

Region 1 is requiring 30 inches of cover on all of these sites. Currently, they are using a three layer system: 18 inches of bank run gravel (sizes no larger than 3 inches) directly on top of the asbestos; 6 inches of sand in the middle; and 6 inches of sandy loam as the top layer. Sites are hydroseeded following the application of the top layer. Region 1 has achieved roughly 50 % cover with the hydroseeding--that is, grass grows on only half the cover following the first application of seed. Region 1 recommends cutting the grass after seeding. This allows the grass to develop a deeper root system and adds to the stability of the cover.

Additional information on specific sites in Region 1 can be obtained from the contact listed below.

Contact:

Paul Groulx  
U.S. EPA Region 1  
Lexington, MA  
(617)861-6700

**Iron Horse Park  
Billerica, MA**

This site was originally listed on the NPL because it contained an uncontrolled asbestos disposal area of approximately 10 to 15 acres. This area of the site was covered and capped by EPA Region 1 during 1984. This action was taken as an "immediate removal action" under 40 CFR 300.65. Roger Thibault of CDM (see below) was uncertain of the exact construction details of the cover/cap. He thinks that it consisted of approximately 18 inches of clay and top soil. Thibault can obtain more detailed information on the cover/cap if this is required. EPA Region 1 apparently considers action on the asbestos disposal area to be complete, although PRC has not been able to contact Region 1 to confirm this.

Subsequent to the immediate removal action, additional problems were discovered at Iron Horse Park. These problems concern other areas of the 1300 acre site and are largely unrelated to asbestos. The site is now in the RI/FS stage; the work is being conducted by CDM, the Region 1 REM contractor, and the RI is roughly 40 % complete. There may be some additional asbestos problems to be addressed during the RI/FS. These concern smaller amounts of asbestos that were spread to other areas of the site by wind erosion before the asbestos disposal area was covered and capped.

**Contacts:**

Paul Hefernan (not yet contacted by PRC)  
U.S. EPA Region 1  
Boston, MA  
(617)223-4859

Roger Thibault  
Camp Dresser & McKee (CDM)  
Boston, MA  
(617)742-5151

**Asbestos Dump Site  
Millington, NJ**

This federal lead NPL site has not yet entered the RI/FS stage. It is expected that field work on the RI will begin in approximately 4 to 6 weeks. The site is an asbestos disposal area located behind a manufacturing facility that produces asbestos-containing shingles. The disposal area contains friable asbestos. A 2 to 3 foot thick soil cover was applied to the disposal area some time during 1984 or 1985. The cover is vegetated on the sides but not on the top.

**Contact:**

Nigel Robinson  
U.S. EPA Region 2  
New York, NY  
(212)264-8674

**Ambler Asbestos Piles  
Ambler, PA**

The Ambler Asbestos Piles were proposed for inclusion on the NPL in 1984 (49 FR 40320, October 15, 1984). The site consists of two large asbestos piles. One pile is approximately 1500 feet long and 200 feet high. The second pile is approximately 400 feet square and 150 feet high. EPA Region 3 had both piles covered as an immediate removal measure under 40 CFR 300.65 in 1984. Each pile was covered with approximately 6 inches of soil and was then hydroseeded; the piles are now vegetated with grass. These initial measures were taken to reduce air emissions of asbestos from the site. One of the piles has steeply sloping sides and borders a stream. Thus, potential erosion of the cover on this side of the pile (which would expose the asbestos below) is a continuing concern. An RI/FS will be conducted for this site. However, the work plan for the RI/FS has not been finalized.

**Contact:**

Hector Abreu  
U.S. EPA Region 3  
Philadelphia, PA  
(214)597-9562

**Mountain View Mobile Homes  
Globe, AZ**

This NPL site in Arizona consisted of approximately 65 mobile homes housing 130 people. The mobile homes were located on the site of an old asbestos mill. Asbestos tailings from previous operations at the mill were spread over the site. The homes and their contents were found to be contaminated with asbestos fibers. It was not possible to decontaminate the homes at a reasonable cost so the homes and their contents were abandoned in place and crushed. The debris from this operation was covered with a layer of fabric. The fabric acts as a filter and forms an additional barrier to prevent the asbestos from becoming airborne. The fabric was covered with 2 feet of compacted soil. Since the site is located in a desert area, it was not possible to revegetate the cover. Instead, a 3-inch thick layer of crushed rock was applied to the cover to minimize wind erosion.

**Contact:**

**Jere Johnson  
U.S. EPA Region 9  
San Francisco, CA  
(415)974-7515**

**Alviso Dumping Areas  
Alviso (San Jose), CA**

The Alviso Dumping Areas were proposed for inclusion on the NPL in 1984 (49 FR 40320, October 15, 1984). Alviso was formerly a separate municipality but has since been incorporated within the city of San Jose, CA. Alviso is located on the edge of San Francisco Bay. Large portions of Alviso were reclaimed from the bay by filling in marshy areas with asbestos/cement pipe, soil, and various construction materials. Because of this, asbestos is spread throughout the community. The major areas of concern appear to be 1) unpaved roads that contain high levels of asbestos fibers, 2) several landfills where asbestos-containing materials were alleged to have been disposed, and 3) flood control levees that circle the residential area.

Two control actions have been taken to date in the Alviso area. In 1983, the California Department of Health Services required the excavation and removal of approximately 800 cubic yards of asbestos-containing material from one of the levees. In 1985, U.S. EPA Region 9 required the paving of portions of a road and a school parking lot.

The Alviso site is not yet in the RI/FS stage so no remedial actions have been proposed. According to Jere Johnson, RPO for EPA Region 9, it is likely that some of the remedial alternatives that will be considered will involve leaving at least some of the asbestos-containing materials in place.

**Contacts:**

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**Alan Herbach  
PRC Engineering  
San Jose, CA  
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**Coalinga Asbestos Mine  
Coalinga, CA**

This NPL site is an asbestos mine now owned by Southern Pacific Railroad and formerly owned by Johns-Manville. Although an RI has not yet been conducted on the site, the site owner submitted a remedial action proposal to U.S. EPA Region 9 approximately one year ago. This proposal called for a 1-foot compacted soil cap covered with vegetation. EPA was reluctant to accept this proposal for several reasons. Since the site is located in a dry and relatively inaccessible area, long-term maintenance of the cap would present a problem. EPA feels that the one foot thickness will not be sufficient to provide reliable protection over a 30 to 50 year period. Because of the dry climate in the area, it may be difficult to establish a vegetative cover on the cap. Additionally, the serpentine soil (high asbestos content) that would underly the cap may not support the vegetation required to stabilize the cap. EPA would prefer a thicker cover on the order of 3 to 5 feet with crushed rock added on top for stabilization.

A second NPL site, the Atlas Asbestos Mine in Fresno County, CA, is similar to the Coalinga Asbestos Mine. The Atlas site is in the RI stage at this time.

**Contact:**

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